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D F

1. AS YOU KNOW, HIGHEST AUTHORITY HAS PUBLICLY USED
CURRENT
FIGURES ON NORTH VIETNAMESE INFILTRATION. FIGURES USED WERE
TAKEN FROM [REDACTED] PUBLICATION, BUT REPRESENT JOINTLY AGREED
WASHINGTON FIGURES [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ANSWER PRESS QUERIES MERELY STATES WE
NOW REPEAT NOW ABLE PROVIDE ESTIMATES ON CURRENT INFILTRA-
TION FLOW BECAUSE OF IMPROVED INTELLIGENCE GATHERING METHODS
ALONG AVENUES OF APPROACH TO SOUTH VIETNAM.

2. THIS NEW FOUND CAPABILITY UNFORTUNATELY GIVES RISE
TO INTEREST IN DEVELOPING NEW SETS OF ~~CALCULATIONS~~
CALCULATIONS WHICH WOULD COMPUTE NET ORDER OF BATTLE
STRENGTH CHANGES FROM ESTIMATES OF CURRENT INFILTRATION AND

CONTINUED

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CURRENT LOSS FIGURES. WHILE ON THE SURFACE THIS HAS SEEMING MERIT, WE HAVE TENDED TO RESIST PRESSURES IN THIS DIRECTION BECAUSE OF VAST COMPLICATIONS THIS WOULD CREATE RISK FOR ENTIRE ORDER OF BATTLE PROBLEM. SUCH AN EXERCISE WOULD CREATE OWN LARGE CANS OF WORMS IN TERMS OF EFFORTS TO CREATE NEW, RETROACTIVELY ADJUSTED COMPUTATIONS AND CALCULATIONS WHICH WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR SAKE OF CONSISTENCY AND HISTORICAL COMPARISONS. MOREOVER, IT MIGHT REVIVE QUESTIONS RELATED TO OUR DIFFICULTIES WITH MACV'S ORDER OF BATTLE METHODS WHICH ARE BEST LEFT DORMANT.

3. THERE ARE LIKELY TO BE COMMUNICATIONS TO OTHER MISSION COMPONENTS SUGGESTING VARIOUS MEANS OF TACKLING THIS PROBLEM. I TRUST YOU WILL COUNSEL LESS HASTE AND MORE DELIBERATION, POINTING OUT AS APPROPRIATE THAT [] IS NOT REPEAT NOT PUSHING FOR ANY NEW SETS OF FIGURES OR ESTIMATES.

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4. IT MAY BE SUGGESTED THROUGH OTHER CHANNELS THAT

25X1 [] BE USED BY THE MISSION TO ASSIST IN ANY EXERCISE RE-
25X1 LATED TO THIS PROBLEM. IN SUCH EVENT, YOU MIGHT NOTE THAT
MY INSTRUCTIONS ON [] CURRENT MISSION ^{WOULD} NOT ALLOW HIM,
IN THE BRIEF TIME ALLOTTED, THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PERIPHERAL
ACTIVITIES OF THIS NATURE.

END OF MESSAGE

25X1

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